

**From:** Ed Tidwell  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Concerned that justice was not given

I've been a software developer for 15 years and at one point I was the biggest MS fan on the planet. I have as a professional witnessed time and time again MS destroying technology companies ONLY because they had more money or dumped on the market to kill the small guy.

In 10 years we will be buying robots from Japan or operating systems from Europe. MS is NOT a leader but a follower that hunts down and destroys the competition. How any company can buy another company's software for around 100 million and then put their name on it and dump it on the market as free BOGGLES my mind. Internet Explorer (was Spy Mosaic) was NOT what MS wanted the consumer to do. MS tried to FORCE EVERYONE to use MSN which was in direct competition with CompuServe. When MS made the WRONG decision on the marketplace they SHOULD NOT have been able to FIX IT by FORCING THEIR Netscape CLONE ON THE OPERATING SYSTEM. When MS was smaller they ALWAYS changed DOS to break Lotus 123. Guess which spread-sheet you can buy today?

When MS purchased OneTree which became their SourceSafe (version control software). They sent out within WEEKS to EVERY CUSTOMER that ALL support for any OTHER operating system was being dropped EXCEPT windows. THIS WAS THE NUMBER ONE TOOL FOR OS/2 AND THEY PURCHASED IT AND KILLED THE TOOL ON OS/2!!!

I have a shrink wrapped copy of Word for OS/2 in my cube. When MS LOST TOTAL CONTROL OF THAT operating system to IBM they STOPPED SHIPPING SOFTWARE FOR IT AND IT WAS KILLED!!! Think I can get support for that product to work with the last OS/2 version IBM shipped? IBM purchased Lotus Notes so they could have a software company to ship applications for OS/2.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO FIX THIS PROBLEM...

Break MS into two separate corporations. THEIR IS NO OTHER WAY. When you buy their software development tools there was a note in the license that you COULD NOT USE THE TOOL TO BUILD PRODUCTS TO COMPETE AGAINST MS OFFICE. If you looked at MS Office the software DLL's they use compared to WHAT THEY GIVE for software developers are COMPLETELY DIFFERENT AND NOT DOCUMENT HOW TO USE THEM.

FORCE THE GROUPS TO BE PROFIT CENTERS. MS has for a long time hired developers that worked for the competition and given them 1 million dollar signing bonuses JUST TO PREVENT other companies from having access to great talent. Look into the author of C# who was the lead developer at Borland and did JBuilder. MS hired him away. WHY WOULD A

COMPANY FOCUSED ON RESEARCH HAVE TO PULL A STUNT LIKE THAT? Because they DO NOT FOCUS ON PLAYING FAIR. WIN AT ALL COSTS.

If MS has to ship applications that RAN ON EVERY AVAILABLE OPERATING SYSTEM OUT THERE THEN MS would HAVE TO COMPETE!

MS owns the OS and the applications. If you can read and write Word files they change the format. If you can load Windows application like OS/2 did they change the API. MS changed a DLL and FORCED IT ONTO THE OEM PC makers to PREVENT "OS/2 for Windows" from working. No feature offered BUT ONLY SABATOGE.

MS has no guilt nor do they have remorse. The consumer WILL NEVER GET A CHANGE TO CHOOSE. Not while MS spends a 100 million to market an operating system and ANOTHER 100 million JUST to make them look good and the government bad.

You SOLD ME OUT! The battle is not over with MS. Now they will just be harder to catch. They WILL NOT CHANGE what they do but only do it in a smarter way to skirt the law. The original ruling that MS should be broken up was valid. What you need to investigate is ALL of the games MS played to make the judge look bad as well as buy the press.

Don't you think it is odd that a COMPANY put people on PAY ROLL to write LETTERS to politicians that the COMPANY IS BEING DONE WRONG???

If that action does not show you HOW FAR MS will go to WIN then I don't think you guys justify my tax money. MS is smarter than you and basically owns the market place. How did having MS DUMP software on the schools FIX THEIR MONOPOLY???

So would asking a drug pusher to give away the cocaine he has in storage freely out to everyone SOLVE THE DRUG PROBLEM?

YOUR PUTTING SMALL SOFTWARE COMPANIES OUT OF BUSINESS THAT HAVE SOFTWARE IN THE EDUCATIONAL CHANNELS!!!

Why wouldn't you make MS put money in a trust for startup company funding for companies to COMPETE AGAINST MS????

WHY NOT GIVE FUNDING TO NETSCAPE LIKE YOU DID THE AIRLINES AFTER 9-11???

What about MS having to give money to operating system companies that were WRONGFULLY DAMAGED BY ILLEGAL ACTIONS???

Sorry guys but the settlement is a joke for anyone who understands technology and knows how MS deals with people. Thankfully the findings of fact that MS IS a monopoly were NOT over turned.

I guess if I want to work on leading edge software I'm going to have to move to Europe. They seem to be the only ones doing anything cool. Some of the latest games I've bought have come from their. My favorite tool TogetherJ is coded in St. Petersburg, Russia. Linux was done by a college kid in FINLAND and it RUNS BETTER than MS Windows.

To bad the consumers couldn't fix this by having a CHOICE but noting like a good monopoly to fix the economy.

Going to be sad when are OS software is done by Sony or Nitendo because they are the ONLY SOFTWARE COMPANIES left after MS destroies everyone else. No wait MS is going after them to! Hmmm. Maybe MS can just own the planet and we don't have to worry about better software. It will just stink everywhere world wide. <smile>

Sincerely,  
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